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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Assistant Director for Research and Reports

Date: 1 February 1952

From: [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

Subject: Progress Report on O/RR Field Team

1. Since my last report, I have devoted most of my time to the exploitation of a [REDACTED] 25X1A

[REDACTED] Working through interpreters, I questioned him extensively on all aspects of the Bulgarian economy, particularly on foreign trade. His knowledgeability proved to be slight. Since, however, he had come to us highly recommended and a cable from Washington had requested prompt and full exploitation, it was necessary to interrogate him fully, even though the results might not justify the effort expended. I have prepared seven reports on this source, six on Bulgarian foreign trade and one on the Bulgarian textile industry.

2. I spent one day at [REDACTED] talking with [REDACTED] 25X1A9a
[REDACTED] head of the Survey group [REDACTED] This 25X1A
is an intelligence group concerned, among other things, with East-West Trade. [REDACTED] you may remember, talked with [REDACTED] in Washington last 25X1A9a
October. He is very anxious to have a member of the O/RR team assigned to his group. I will cover this subject more fully in a separate report.

3. My only other major activity was the procurement of three anti-friction bearings of Czechoslovakian manufacture from the driver of a Skoda taxi. These were forwarded to the Chief, Sovmat Staff with a copy of the covering memo to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] promptly reimbursed me for the expenses 25X1A6a
incurred.

4. I feel that one valuable function that can be performed by O/RR in this theater is to procure expeditiously from Washington certain reference materials and specific information for the guidance of activities engaged in the collection of economic intelligence. In this regard, Mike and I both made commitments to several different groups to obtain needed information and subsequently requested the same from headquarters. Since no answers were forthcoming, I was becoming increasingly concerned. Last week, however, a pouch arrived laden with Industrial Register listings and NIE-33 country studies. My gloom was promptly dispelled, and the recipients of the material were greatly pleased. Both the IR listings and NIE-33 studies have already proved their value as reference material.

5. Still outstanding, however, is our request of 27 November (page 3 of Progress Report of that date) for information on FDD publications on Soviet railroad systems and for O/RR action on the translation of Part II of ECONOMICHESKAYA GEOGRAFIYA SSSR, which [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] had asked 25X1A6a
us to handle. I should like very much to have some information, be it positive or negative, on these two subjects to give to [REDACTED] on my next visit to [REDACTED] 25X1A6a

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6. Now for two administrative matters pertaining to the O/RR team:

a. In regard to Mike's request of 27 November for a car for the team, I have managed reasonably well to procure needed transportation, thanks to liberal use of trains, street cars, and taxis; but I have wasted a considerable amount of time in the process. In addition, lack of transportation has hindered flexibility of operations. Thus I fail to make as many calls on other local activities as I should, for even a short call, owing to the vagaries of transportation, means the expenditure of half a day or more. In short, I can get along without a vehicle, though at reduced efficiency. If, however, there are to be three or four people attached to the team, I would consider a car to be indispensable. If O/RR's budget will not permit the purchase of an automobile, it may be possible to get the General's office to assign one to the team. I would appreciate advice on this point.

b. Have any steps been taken to increase the size of the team and to determine the level at which it will operate? I assume that plans have not yet been formalized, but any indications you could give would help me in planning my activities during the remaining $3\frac{1}{2}$ months of my tour of duty here.



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